

PREMIX COMPOSITION FOR CLARIFYING BEER

Abstract

A premix composition for clarifying beverages like beer includes, by weight, (a) about 40 to 90%, preferably 60-85%, of silica xerogel having less than 10% water therein, preferably 5% or less, and a particle size, as defined by its mean volume average diameter MV, in both the dry state and as a 10% aqueous slurry, of less than 50  $\mu$ , preferably about 5-30  $\mu$ , and (b) about 10 to 60%, preferably 15-40%, of crosslinked polyvinylpyrrolidone having a particle size as defined, in the dry state, of about 10 to 50  $\mu$ , and about 30-60  $\mu$  in a 10% aqueous slurry, and a process of obtaining, chill-haze stabilized beer with substantial reduction in high molecular weight proteins, as well as polyphenols, flavanoids and tannins, in an efficient and effective single-step process at a rapid filter-flow rate, with undetectable residual soluble polyvinylpyrrolidone thereafter, and no microbiological growth in the premix, effective haze stability after time, and advantageous redispersibility of the premix used in the process.